

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 Software programs, such as an operating system or other application  
3 programs, are automatically customized to a specific user(s) based on data  
4 corresponding to the specific user(s) that is maintained in a user information store.  
5 In one embodiment, the information store is a unified store that is accessible by  
6 multiple programs including the operating system. Thus, new information or  
7 information changes can be made available to multiple programs by the user  
8 adding (or changing) the information only once. In another embodiment, the  
9 operating system image to be installed on a computer is pre-populated with user-  
10 specific information at the factory. The user-specific information can be  
11 integrated into the operating system at the factory or alternatively upon an initial  
12 boot of the computer by the user.  
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